

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /135 W

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R 051637Z APR 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2313

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS OECD PARIS 8445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE (TC) EXAMINATION OF
AUSTRALIA'S FOREIGN TRADE AND TRADE POLICIES

REFS: A) USOECD 2116 B) USOECD 3179

1. SUMMARY. MESSAGES SUMMARIZES STATE OF PREPARATIONS FOR TC
EXAMINATION OF AUSTRALIA' S TRADE POLICIES, URGES WASHINGTON
AND/OR EMBASSY CANBERRA REPRESENTATION AT TCWP REVIEW MAY 20-22,
AND REQUESTS COMMENTS BY APRIL 15 ON ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR REVIEW.
END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT HAS ISSUED ANNOTATED AGENDA (TFD/TD/744) FOR
EXAMINATION OF AUSTRALIA' S TRADE POLICY NOW SET TO TAKE PLACE
MAY 20-22, BEGINNING AFTERNOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. (AUSTRALIAN
DEL HAD REQUESTED EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT EXAMINATION BE MOVED
UP TO APRIL 29-30. SEVERAL DELS BALKED AND IT NOW LIKELY THAT
MAY 20-22 WILL BE MAINTAINED. SCENARIO REMAINS AS SET FORTH REF
A, I.E., INTENSIVE TWO AND A HALF DAY EXAMINATION BY TCWP,
FOLLOWED BY WRITTEN TCWP REPORT TO TC SUMMARIZING MAIN POINTS OF
EXAMINATION AND INDICATING THOSE WORTHY OF FURTHER CONSIDERATION
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AT TC MEETING. GOA PLANNING TO FIELD REASONABLY HIGH-LEVEL

DELEGATION FROM CANBERRA AND SECRETARIAT URGING OTHER DELS TO BE REPRESENTED BY EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS. QUALITY OF US REPRESENTATION WILL CLEARLY INFLUENCE THAT OF OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES.

3. MISSION COMMENT. MISSION STRONGLY URGES WASHINGTON AND/OR EMBASSY CANBERRA REPRESENTATION AT TCWP MEETING IN ORDER TO A) INSURE HIGL LEVEL OF INFORMED DEBATE, B) GAIN MAXIMUM UTILITY FROM MEETING BY GIVING PROPER RECOGNITION TO LIBERAL ASPECTS OF AUSTRALIA' S TRADE POLICY AND BY CALLING ATTENTION TO WEAK OR QUESTIONABLE ASPECTS OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH MIGHT BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE UNDER MULTILATERAL PRESSURE. CURRENT SCENARIO OFFERS DUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PROBING EXAMINATION OF AUSTRALIAN POLICIES BY BOTH TCWP AND TC. SEVERAL DELS INCLUDING EC COMMISSION AND JAPAN HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN EXERCISE. IN ADDITION TO YIELDING DIRECT BENEFITS TO AUSTRALIA AND OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES, HIGH QUALITY EXAMINATION COULD HAVE FAVORABLE INFLUENCE ON TC' S LONGER TERM WORK PROGRAM. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT PROPOSAL FOR PERIODIC COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS OF MEMBER COUNTRY TRADE POLICIES WAS NOT APPROVED BY TC IN 1971, MAINLY BECAUSE OF OPPOSITION BY EC AND JAPAN. (TC(71)9). A GOOD REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA AND, LATER THIS YEAR, OF NEW ZEALAND COULD BE HELPFUL IN PERSUADING EC AND OTHERS OF THE MERIT OF SUCH EXERCISES IN FUTURE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. A) APPROVAL ASAP OF MISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR WASHINGTON AND/OR EMBASSY CANBERRA REPRESENTATION AT TCWP MEETING AND B) COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS BY APRIL 16 FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SECRETARIAT FOR IMPROVING ANNOTATED AGENDA (TC(74)9).BROWN

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Message Attributes

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